

RICO TOWN BOARD MEETING MINUTES

Date: Oct 18, 2023

Call to Order 7:00

Trustees Present: Mayor Nicole Pieterse
Mayor Pro Tem Patrick Fallon
Trustee Joe Dillsworth
Trustee Benn Vernadakis
Trustee Jordan Carr
Trustee Joe Croke
Trustee Chris Condon (zoom)

Trustees Absent:

Staff Present. Chauncey McCarthy, Anna Wolf (zoom),

Approval of the Agenda

Motion

To approve the agenda.

Moved by Trustee Benn Vernadakis, seconded by Trustee Jordan Carr.

Vote. A roll call vote was taken and the motion was approved, 7-0.

Approval of Minutes

Meeting dates to be added to the agenda.

Motion

To approve the minutes from September 20, 2023.

Moved by Trustee Joe Dillsworth, seconded by Benn Vernadakis.

Vote. A roll call vote was taken and the motion was approved, 7-0.

Consent Agenda

Payment of the Bills

Motion

To approve the payment of the bills.

Moved by Trustee Joe Dillsworth, seconded by Trustee Joe Croke.

Vote. A roll call vote was taken and the motion was approved, 7-0.

Public Comment:

Teal Stetson-Lee: appreciates the Boards efforts. Update from the Rico Geo-thermal coalition. Going to ask for a letter of support in the next few months.

Action Items

Consideration of Proposition 123, affordable housing commitment for the Town of Rico

Chauncey McCarthy gave summary. Asking for direction for Staff.

Mayor Pro tem asks clarifying question regarding the commitment. Let a year go by to see how the program progresses.

Joe Croke is not in favor at this point.

Benn Vernadakis: for the time being this may be too much work for staff. To revisit next year.

Joe Dillsworth: Doesn't seem to have anything to lose by making the commitment. Shak has done all of the work leading up to this. Would be supportive.

Jordan: asks if there is a down side and how much work it will add to the Town manager's plate.

Chauncey: It depends on how the Board goes about it. With no Housing authority set up it may be tricky.

Jordan: in support.

Chris Condon: In support, nut needs more information on the commitment that this would mean for the Town.

Nicole: In support. Doesn't want to see the Town miss an opportunity.

Could enter into an intergovernmental agreement for the Mountain village housing authority to oversee the Rico housing authority.

Benn Vernadakis expresses concern with the Town being liable if a developer goes over budget.

Public Comment:

Skip Zeller does not want lack of housing to be an issue for people in the community

Teal: in support. Many people cannot afford a home right now. There has been an increase in living expenses. Rico should define itself by looking for opportunities to make this community accessible.

Pat Fallon asks clarifying questions regarding the commitment agreement as well as the housing authority.

Motion

To move forward with our commitment for the affordable housing Proposition 123 the affordable housing commitment.

Moved by Trustee Jordan Carr, seconded by Trustee Benn Vernadakis.

Vote. A roll call vote was taken and the motion was approved, 5-2. Mayor Pro Tem Pat Fallon and Trustee Joe Croke voting no on the motion.

Consideration of a letter of support for the San Juan National Forest, Dolores Ranger District grant proposal to the Colorado Parks and Wildlife

The Mayor gives a summary.

Motion

To approve a letter of support for the San Juan National Forest, Dolores Ranger District grant proposal to the Colorado Parks and Wildlife with editorial corrections

Moved by Mayor Nicole Pieterse, seconded by Trustee Benn Vernadakis.

Vote. A roll call vote was taken and the motion was approved, 7-0

Consideration of letter to San Juan National Forest to initiate a FERTA easement (for a section of Piedmont Road) to the Town of Rico

Town Manager Chauncey McCarthy gives summary.

Public Comment:

Helen Matzick asks clarifying question about the road in question.

Motion

To approve letter to San Juan National Forest to initiate a FERTA easement (for a section of Piedmont Road) to Dolores County.

Moved by Trustee Benn Vernadakis, seconded by Trustee Jordan Carr.

Vote. A roll call vote was taken and the motion was approved, 7-0

General Fund transfer from Dolores State Bank to C-SAFE Account

Chauncey McCarthy gives summary. A resolution in the works to enable Staff to transfer monies to the C-SAFE account based on a financial limit that should be maintained in the Dolores State bank General fund.

Chris Condon in support

Jordan Carr in support

Joe Dillsworth in support

Benn Vernadakis in support

Joe Croke in support

Pat Fallon in support of transfer. Wants to discuss the amount.

To leave \$500,000 in the Dolores state bank the rest to be transferred into the C-SAFE account.

Motion

To maintain \$500,000 in the Dolores State Bank and deposit the rest in C-SAFE pending a resolution.

Moved by Trustee Joe Croke, seconded by Trustee Benn Vernadakis.

Vote. A roll call vote was taken and the motion was approved, 7-0

Staff Report

Clerk's Report

Election update. Only one petition, election will be cancelled. Pat Fallon is the only candidate that submitted a full and complete petition.

Terms to start in January and end in December for Board members and Mayor Seat.

Finishing up on finishing up Q3 including lodging tax

Computer available for Trustees in the back office.

Manager's Report

FERTA easement takes a while. There will be more in the future but will be working on this one at a time.

Fiber installation started last week.

The roads are being sampled.

Chauncey will be out of the office the week of Thanksgiving.

So far \$30,000 off the budget for the new town shop. Still working on additional savings.

Q3 closed. Every account has exceeded projected revenues. Very optimistic.

Discussion Items

Voluntary lead soils clean up ("VCUP") update

Nicole Pieterse gives summary.

Special meeting to be held either the 16th or the 23rd of October.

Park and Recreation improvements grant update by FMP Consulting

Anais gives update. GOCO gave feedback, the suggested changes have been made. Application draft is with Town Staff for review.

Anais gives timeline for GOCO application and outcome.

The Board asked questions about other grant opportunities.

2023/24 Rico Center Grant requests submitted by Town of Rico

Board lead discussion and gave staff direction

Voluntary lead soils clean up ("VCUP") program update

The Mayor gives a summary

Discussion of short-term rental owner occupied designation

Discussion was had on other municipality's ways of this designation. Waiting on litigations hat are happening around the country.

Staff recommends moving forward with the STR ordinance update based on the administrative changes.

Construction impact mitigation rules and regulations

Chauncey McCarthy gives summary.

The board has discussion on the presented document to give direction to staff.

Motion

To go into executive session Townwide VCUP funding agreement. Determination of positions relative to matters that may be subject to negotiations, development of strategy for negotiations and instruction of negotiators § 24-6 402(4)(e) C.R.S.

Personnel matters except if the employee who is the subject of the session has requested an open meeting. § 24-6-402(4)(f)(I), C.R.S

Moved by Mayor Nicole Pieterse



Anna Wolf
Rico Town Clerk



Nicole Pieterse
Mayor